

## Message Text

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43

ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 CU-02

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FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL

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E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT KS

SUBJECT: OPPOSITION LEADERS SPEAK DURING QUIET OBSSERVANCE  
OF APRIL 19 ANNIVERSARY OF STUDENT REVOLT

1. KIM TAE-CHUNG, KIM YONG-SAM AND FORMER PRESIDENT YUN  
PO-SON SPOKE ON CURRENT KOREAN POLITICAL SCENE DURING  
VARIOUS OBSSERVANCES IN SEOUL COMMEMORATING APRIL 19,  
1960 STUDENT REVOLT AGAINST SYNGMAN RHEE GOVERNMENT.  
MEMORIAL GATHERINGS WERE REPORTEDLY QUIET  
ALTHOUGH TONGA ILBO CLAIMS KIM TAE-CHUNG DREW CROWD  
OF 4,000 AND RECEIVED SHOUTS OF "MANSAI" FROM STREET  
CROWD FOLLOWING SPEECH. LOCAL PRESS REPORTED  
THREE SPEECHES IN APRIL 21 EDITIONS THOUGH YUN PO-SON'S  
COVERAGE WAS SPARSE.

2. KIM TAE-CHUNG REITERATED CLAIM THAT YUSHIN  
CONSTITUTION MUST BE AMENDED, THAT IT WAS NOT NECESSARY  
FOR DEFENSE OF COUNTRY BUT MERELY TO KEEP PRESENT  
REGIME IN POWER. HE STATED THAT ECONOMIC PROGRES  
NOW BENEFITTING POWERFUL MUST BE BROADENED TO ENCOMPASS  
AVERAGE KOREAN. HE SAID KOREA MUST LEARN LESSON FROM  
INDOCHINESE SITUATION, THAT A DICTATORIAL AND COURRUPT  
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GOVERNMENT CANNOT DEFEND ITSELF FROM EXTERNAL  
ENEMIES. HE ADDED THAT PEOPLE WHO ONLY LIVED IN  
RENTED ROOMS IN 1960 ARE NOW BOTH POWERFUL AND RICH.

3. KIM SAID THAT PRESENT GOVERNMENT WAS INSTILLING FEELING OF DEFEATISM IN COUNTRY BY CONSTANTLY PLAYING UP NORTH KOREAN THREAT. ONLY A STRONG AND DEMOCRATIC COUNTRY CAN UNIFY AND STAND STRONGLY AGAINST REAL DANGER POSED BY NORTH. ROKG MUST REGAIN RESPECT OF INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY, PARTICULARLY REGARDING HUMAN RIGHTS. HE ALSO CALLED UPON PEOPLE TO CAST ASIDE GENERAL APATHY TOWARD CURRENT EVENTS. IN CLOSING, KIM INDIRECTLY TIED IN DEATHS OF THOSE STUDENTS KILLED IN UPRISING OF 1960 WITH SUWON STUDENT KIM SANG-CHIN'S SUICIDE.

4. KIM YONG-SAM AND YUN PO-SON WERE MUCH MORE SPECIFIC IN ASSOCIATING KIM SANG-CHING'S SUICIDE WITH APRIL 19 EVENTS. WHILE KIM TAE-CHUNG'S SPEECH WAS MORE GENERAL IN SCOPE AND CHARACTER, KIM YONG-SAM'S REMARKS, ISSUED FROM PARTY HEADQUARTERS, WERE MORE DIRECTLY CRITICAL OF ROKG AND CLEARLY STRONGER. LATTER URGED REPEAL OF EMERGENCY MEASURE 7 AND REITERATED CALL TO RESTORE DEMOCRACY AND AMEND YUSHIN CONSTITUTION. YUN PO-SON'S REMARKS AS REPORTED IN PRESS WERE LARGEY EULOGY OF SUWON STUDENT'S DEATH.

5. NDP IS NOW PRESENTING PHOTO EXHIBIT OF APRIL 19 REBELLION JUXTAPOSING PICTURES FROM 1960 WITH PHOTOGRAPS OF RECENT STUDENT PROTESTERS INCLUDING KIM SANG-CHIN.  
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## Message Attributes

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**Capture Date:** 26 AUG 1999  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
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**To:** STATE INFO TOKYO  
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